

September 14, 2015

**Free "Shred, Identity & Scam Awareness Event" To Be Held Thursday, September 24th**

*Town Center Bank adds scam awareness to annual complimentary event.*

Frankfort, IL - Identifying scams used to be fairly easy. When a telephone caller asked for a social security or bank account number, you just hung up. Today, those callers are smarter, and scams pour through email, social media, "snail" mail and website visits, targeting victims of all ages.

"At least once a day, we get a call asking us if we think something is a scam," said Leanne Bender, Crime Prevention Officer, Village of Frankfort. "Whatever criminals can take advantage of, they will."

Because scams are directly tied to identity theft, scam awareness is now being included in Town Center Bank's annual free event. The "Shred, Identity & Scam Awareness Event" features a new emphasis on recognizing scams quickly, before identity is compromised.

Bender urges that high school and college students be aware also - especially as they expose information through social media and Internet use. Bender observes that many times, these younger victims don't know until years later that their identity has been used and their credit is ruined. Whenever any personal information is disclosed, she remarked, the door is open for identity theft, including website purchases.

Kevin Kline of Shred X echoes that caution. Kline's team will be on hand at the event to safely and securely shred up to 5 boxes of documents per visitor. "Paperwork is still the number one way identities are stolen. That includes medical bills, account statements, tax forms and returns, insurance documents; we tell clients that if there's any doubt, shred it."

*The "Shred, Identity & Scam Awareness Event" will be held Thursday, September 24 at Aurelios at 9901 W Lincoln Highway in Frankfort.*

Free shredding will be held from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The seminar begins at 7:00 pm. While the event is free and open to the public, seats for the seminar are limited. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling the Frankfort Town Center Bank at 815-806-7001 or the New Lenox branch at 815-463-7002.

Bender is pleased to be working with Town Center Bank again this year. "This is such a goodwill gesture to our community. Town Center Bank is looking out for all our neighbors by providing this event. It's great to have this information and service available to protect people so they don't become victims."

Kline agrees. "Town Center Bank is giving people piece of mind that their document destruction is done properly. Everybody can sleep better."

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